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PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH
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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0540
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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
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RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 2250
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 4597
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 0113
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 2808
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 6037
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 7563
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2701
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 3594
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SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - NORTH KOREA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Front-page items on Wednesday morning included a plan by 10 nations, including the U.S., Japan, Germany, and the UK to create a framework for a "world-wide" patent examination system.

¶2. "North Korea Trying to Shake U.S.?" The business-oriented Nikkei wrote from Seoul (2/4): "Signs of North Korea preparing the launch of a long-range ballistic missile Taepodong II, which is capable of reaching the U.S., were detected. North Korea's position of escalating its hard-line policy was made clear. The move appears to indicate North Korea's call on the Obama administration, which places importance on the situation in the Middle East, to swiftly hold direct talks with Pyongyang. North Korea apparently took a step to 'shake' the U.S. following its recent statement nullifying all of its agreements with South Korea. Although Japan, China, and other nations concerned have so far been observing the situation in a cautious manner, there is concern that the move to increase tension on the Korean Peninsula may continue."

ZUMWALT